**Civil Rights Timeline**

Rights we have in America often referred to as Civil Rights

Civil Rights: comes from the Declaration of Independence, they are our inalienable rights

Inalienable Rights: right to vote, right to freedom of speech, religion, etc; living and going where you wish

Timeline

1. Civil Rights Act of 1875: outlawed segregation in public facilities by saying all persons had a right to enjoy them (declared unconstitutional in 1883)
2. Plessy vs. Ferguson (1896): “separate but equal” doesn’t violate the 14th Amendment, which guarantees all Americans equal treatment under the law

Late 1890’s-onward

1. Jim Crow Laws: rules aimed at separating blacks from whites, especially in the South.

* no marriage, separate schools, streetcars, waiting rooms, elevators, restrooms, etc

1. 1909: NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) starts to fight segregation
2. 1918: Great Migration, time period when thousands of Southern blacks moved in flocks to Northern cities
3. 1941-1945: World War II provides opportunities for all

* 1 million blacks served
* Women and other minorities take jobs to replace soldiers overseas
* Civil Rights groups start to form and protest for reform
* FDR releases a presidential order prohibiting discrimination in government agencies

1. 1946: Morgan vs. Virginia

* Supreme Court declares state laws mandating segregated seating on interstate buses unconstitutional

1. 1950: Sweatt vs. Painter

* State law schools must admit black applicants even if separate black schools existed

1. 1954: Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka

* Supreme Court struck down segregation in schooling as a violation of the 14th Amendment’s Equal Protection Clause (12 million kids in 21 states)

1. 1908-1993, Thurgood Marshall

* 1st black to be a member of the Supreme Court
* Lawyer for the NAACP that tried landmark civil rights cases before the Supreme Court

1. 1955: Brown II

* Desegregate “with all deliberate speed”

1. 1955: Murder of Emmett Till
2. December 1, 1955: Rosa Parks refuses to give up her seat to a white man leading to the Montgomery Bus Boycott
3. 1956: Supreme Court outlaws bus segregation
4. September 1957: Governor Faubus of Arkansas

* Orders the National Guard to turn away the “Little Rock Nine”, nine black students who entered Little Rock Central High School

1. September 1957: Civil Rights Act of 1957

* LBJ (senator) gives attorney general greater power over school desegregation and gave federal government authority over violations of African-American voting rights

1. 1957: Southern Christian Leadership Conference founded by King and others
2. 1960: Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC)